

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated May 17, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 43 and 52, and cancels claims 45 and 46 without prejudice or disclaimer. In addition, Applicant adds new claim 62. Accordingly, claims 43, 44 and 47-62 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 43-46, 49, 52-56 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nishiguchi (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,787); rejected claims 48, 50, 58 and 60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Moseley et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,849); rejected claims 47 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Deanne et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,627,305); and rejected claims 51 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Franklin et al. (E.P. Patent Application No. 0477882 A2). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

The rejection of claims 43-46, 49, 52-56 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nishiguchi is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 43 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 43 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a transparent substrate on the polarizer; and a retardation layer on the transparent substrate ...wherein the polarizer, the transparent substrate and the retardation layer are integrally formed as a single unit to be mounted onto the display panel in a single step." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 43, and claims 46 and 49, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 52 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 52 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...forming a retardation layer having first and second polarizing cell areas corresponding to the first and second pixels over the display panel by a single light irradiation through a mask." None of the cited references, singly or in combination,

teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 52, and claims 53-56, 59 and 61, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 48, 50, 58 and 60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Moseley et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Since Moseley et al. fails to cure the deficient teaching of Nishiguchi discussed with respect to claims 43 and 52, claims 48, 50, 58 and 60 are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 47 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Deanne et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Since Deanne et al. fails to cure the deficient teaching of Nishiguchi discussed with respect to claims 43 and 52, claims 47 and 57 are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 51 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Franklin et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Since Franklin et al. fails to cure the deficient teaching of Nishiguchi discussed with respect to claims 43 and 52, claims 51 and 61 are allowable over the cited references.

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: August 11, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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